

Abstract

A prosthesis replaces all or a portion of a caudal portion of a natural facet joint (i.e., a superior articular process) on a vertebral body. The prosthesis has a prosthesis body accommodating fixation to the vertebral body at or near a pedicle and without support by a lamina. The prosthesis further has an artificial facet joint structure carried by the prosthesis body. The artificial facet joint structure is adapted and configured to replace all or a portion of a caudal portion of a natural facet joint.